

Clean Version of the Pending Claims

41. (Amended) A fusion protein comprising the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

42. (Amended) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53 linked to a suitable carrier.

43. The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a disulfide/amide-forming agent.

44. The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 42 linked to a thio-ether-forming agent.

46. (Amended) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 57 wherein the polypeptide is linked to a disulfide/amide-forming agent.

47. (Amended) The immunogenic polypeptide of claim 57 wherein the polypeptide is linked to a thio-ether-forming agent.

52. (Amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and the immunogenic polypeptide of claim 53.

53. An immunogenic polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence motif Xaa-Thr-Xaa-Val-Thr-Gly-Gly-Xaa-Ala-Ala-Arg-Thr-Thr-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Ser-Leu-Phe-Xaa-Xaa-Gly-Xaa-Ser-Gln-Xaa-Ile-Gln-Leu-Ile (SEQ ID NO:8).